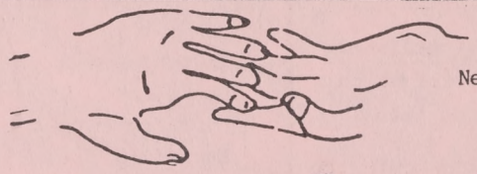
APRIL 1986

News and Notes from the
Fellowship Offices



Keeping in Touch

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304,Los Angeles, CA 90029-1196 (213)464-5100

FEBRUARY

TOP 20 TITHES
(Received by 10 March 1986)

1.	MCC Dallas	Dallas, TX	$ 1,648.70
2.	MCC of Resurrection	Houston, TX	1,492.54
3.	MCC Long Beach	Long Beach, CA	1,353.21
4.	MCC San Diego	San Diego, CA	1,144.24
5.	Ch. of H.Spirit MCC	Ft.Ldrdl, FL	1,014.17
6.	MCC Gtr. St. Louis	St.Louis, MO	913.75
7.	MCC in the Valley	N.Hollywood, CA	895.62
8.	MCC Washington	Washington, DC	766.46
9.	MCC Los Angeles	Los Angeles, CA	695.98
10.	Christ Chapel MCC	Santa Ana, CA	673.13
11.	All God's Children MCC	Mpls., MN	651.32
12.	MCC San Francisco	San Fransc., CA	641.15
13.	MCC Gtr. Kansas Cty.	Kans.Cty., MO	596.47
14.	King of Peace	St.Petrsbrg., FL	575.10
15.	MCC Disciples	Washington, DC	518.91
16.	River City MCC	Sacramento, CA	512.76
17.	Key West MCC	Key West, FL	497.78
18.	St. Luke's MCC	Jacksonville, FL	497.38
19.	MCC Pomona Valley	Ontario, CA	487.93
20.	Agape MCC	Fort Worth, TX	471.78

FEBRUARY

TOP 20 PER CAPITA
(Received by 10 March 1986)

1.	Good Samaritan MCC	Bellflower, CA	$ 25.92
2.	Key West MCC	Key West, FL	22.52
3.	MCC Midland/Odessa	Odessa, TX	21.76
4.	Open Arms MCC	Rochester, NY	20.51
5.	Maranatha MCC	Colorado Sprngs., CO	18.95
6.	Harlem MCC	New York, NY	18.08
7.	MCC Richmond	Richmond, VA	17.36
8.	MCC No.Virginia	Oakton, VA	17.15
9.	MCC Apostles of God	Sierra Vsta, AZ	16.94
10.	MCC Long Beach	Long Beach, CA	16.58
11.	MCC of Desert	Palm Springs, CA	16.24
12.	MCC Disciples..TIE	Washington, DC	16.07
12.	MCC of Spirit..TIE	Harrisburg, PA	16.07
13.	Christ the Librator..MCC Princeton	NJ	15.71
14.	MCC Ocean of Life	Costa Mesa, CA	15.48
15.	Christ Chapel MCC	Santa Ana, CA	15.09
16.	Covenant MCC	Birmingham, AL	14.63
17.	MCC Hartford	Hartford, CT	14.50
18.	MCC Brooklyn	Brooklyn, NY	13.95
19.	Trinity MCC	New York, NY	13.92
20.	MCC Washington	Washington, DC	13.40

PRAISES

**Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson, the newly elected pastor of MCC-LA will be installed on April 13th. She will be carrying out limited Clerk's responsibilities for the BOE and General Council effective 17 March 1986.

**MCC Louisville has begun working on relocation. Ms. Dee Dale French has been advised that the only item which can be salvaged, due to the church building fire last winter, was the MCC cross, PRAISE GOD!!! Keep MCC Louisville in your prayers as they look for new quarters.

**Rev. Elder Jeri-Ann Harvey will be the featured guest preacher at Faith Eternal (Springfield, IL) MCC's charter celebration in April. CONGRATULATIONS Faith Eternal MCC.

**Congratulations to Peter McCarthy, Assistant DC, Bill Marshall, Clerk, and Keith Rainey, Lay Rep. of the Australian District who were newly elected at their District Conference held in January. Congratulations also to Rev. Jim Dykes, District Coordinator and Jon Hutchinson, Treasurer, for their re-election.

**MCC Sarasota has installed Rev. Robert Pierce as it's new pastor. CONGRATULATIONS Rev. Pierce!!!

**MCC of New York formed an aids ministry a year ago. In order to pool resources, MCC New York is sponsoring a second forum: "aids: A Tool for Spiritual Growth" on 19 April, as part of their Spiritual Renewal Weekend. Anyone interested can contact Rev. Karen Ziegler (212) 242-1212, MCC-NY's pastor.

**"Praise God for my UFMCC family", said Rev. La Paula Turner, Great Lakes District Coordinator. "I have been able to make it because of your prayers, cards, letters, and phone calls received since the death of my mother. Once again, THANK YOU!!"

**The General Council meeting held in LA last month was a great success. HIGHLIGHTS of this meeting: a historic first meeting of all program directors, passage of an aids program (including and international UFMCC aids vigil), considerations of responses to Rev. Virgil Scott's murder, an exciting report from Rev. Elder Jean White on our new church in Jakarta, Indonesia plus her upcoming trip to Nigeria, update on our Mexico City Building Drive, and much more!

**The European North Sea District is now publishing their SOP's and newsletters in Danish as well as English. BILINGUAL COOPERATION AT ITS BEST!!!

**Congratulations to Christ Chapel MCC who will be celebrating their anniversary in April, which includes hosting the L.A. Gay Men Chorus on April 12th. Tickets are on sale, for more info call (714) 835--0722.

**Free Spirit MCC at California Institute for Women celebrated their "Dedication Services" on 26 March 1986. The Southwest District Coordinator, Rev. Judy Dahl, officiated. The pastor, Rev. Ro Halford and 20 members were received into the church. CONGRATULATIONS!!!
Those sharing in the celebration were: Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson, Ms. Barbara Sagat, Ms. Gina Chapman, Ms. Kate Corrido, Ms. Kathie Bobbitt, and Ms. Marie Gizoni. Most of the C.I.W. Worship Facilitators met on the same date/time to worship together with the congregation; representing ANOTHER FIRST!!!!
Thank you all for your continued support through prayer as this church begins to unleash the Spirit of God within them! PRAISE GOD!!!

**Rev. Grant Ford of Holy Covenant MCC, accepted a call to the Church of the Holy Spirit MCC in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. The Florida church voted by a 95% margin to ask Rev. Ford to fill their pulpit. PRAISE GOD! Congratulations to Rev. Ford and his partner Abe Olivio as they make plans to relocate to Florida in mid-April.

**The Executive Committee of the Department of Third World Ministries met 14-16 March 1986 in Dayton, Ohio. We (TWM Executive Comm.) want to thank publically MCC Dayton Parish for their hospitality and Praise God for the work and wondrous gifts of their Gay and Lesbian Community.

PRAYER REQUESTS

***Let's keep the Pro-Peace Marchers in our prayers as they continue to overcome obstacles. However they continue to march.

***A world wide movement of Prayer for persons with aids and aids related conditions was originated by the Healing Project of San Francisco and co-sponsored by the aids Interfaith Network. It is requested that each of us, world wide, take five minutes of prayer and meditation each evening at 7:00 p.m. for persons with aids and related conditions, and for those involved in aids ministry.

***Rev. Felix Escamilla has resigned as Worship Coordinator from ICM Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico for personal and health reasons. Ms. Graciela D'Avila, has been named as Worship Coordinator to the Tijuana group. Ms D'Avila is the first woman Worship Coordinator in Mexico. (ALELUYA!!!) Hispanic Americas Ministry wishes to express its deep gratitude to Rev. Escamilla for all his dedication and work done in Tijuana. Let's always remember all of the people dedicated to bringing the Good News to Latin America and all of World Church Extension, in our prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

--THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE HAS CHANGED THEIR REQUIREMENTS AS IT RELATES TO BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPES BETTER KNOWNS AS BRE's (the prepaid return envelopes from UFMCC). THEREFORE THE BRE's FROM UFMCC WHICH ARE NOW IN ANYONE'S POSSESSION CAN NO LONGER BE USED. PLEASE THROW THEM AWAY. THE USPOS WILL NOT FORWARD TO US ANY MAIL USING THESE BRE's EFFECTIVE 31 MARCH 1986.

--COPIES AVAILABLE OF TWO ECUMENICAL SERVICES FOR AIDS. From Brokeness to Wholeness: A Service of Healing (done in Hartford in March 1986) and Moving Beyond Our Fears: A Prayer Service (done in Baltimore in November 1985) are just two of the many ecumenical services done around the world in the last year in response to aids. In both of the above services, the local MCC's were actively involved. Printed copies of both entire services are available from Samaritan Extended Studies (Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107). Hymns, prayers, and readings are all included. Cost is $4 for each or $ 7 for both (includes printing, postage, and handling), payable in US funds to Samaritan Extended Studies.

--A private investigator is being hired by the Fellowship to investigate the murder of Rev. Virgil Scott, the late pastor of MCC Stockton. A "brief" regarding these circumstances can be obtained for $5.00 (printing and shipping) from the Northwest District c/o Rev. David Pelletier, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Donations can also be sent to the same address to help with the costs of the investigation. Let us continue remembering the loved ones of Rev. Scott, MCC Stockton, and the Northwest District, and everyone in the Fellowship as we heal from this tragedy, through our prayers.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

--DATES FOR 1986 CLERGY CONFERENCE. The 1986 UFMCC Clergy Conference will be September 15-18 (Monday through Thursday) in Burlingame, California (just minutes from the San Francisco Airport). Watch for more information!

--The Mid Atlantic District Conference will be held in Richmond, VA on Memorial Day Weekend, 23-25 May 1986. The Spring Conference theme will be "Community is our Middle Name". The host pastor for this event is the Rev. Arthur Runyan and the keynote speaker will be Rev. June Norris.

--The Mid-Central District Conference this year will be held in Wichita, KS on 18-20 April 1986. The Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey and the Rev. Bruce Brown will conduct the worship services.

--The annual District Conference of Gulf Lower Atlantic District is scheduled for the weekend of 25-27 April. The Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry will be the guest speaker.

FELLOWSHIP UPDATE

REVEREND ELDER DOCTOR MODERATOR TROY D. PERRY
RECEIVES SECOND HONORARY DOCTORATE

Congratulations to Rev. Elder Dr. Troy Perry who received a Honorary Doctorate of Human Service from Sierra University in Santa Monica, California on Saturday, 22 March 1986. Rev. Perry was awarded the degree for "...his work on actively opposing all forms of human oppression, ageism, sexism, racism and for being an outspoken advocate of Gay and Lesbian rights...".

Others being honored that night with Honorary Doctorates were: businesswoman and actress Ms. Madge Sinclair (currently appearing in Trapper John M.D. television series); Dr. Igor Tzaikovsky, Soviet researcher and visionary, best known for his work in underwater childbirth; and Ms. Carmen Zapata, actress, producer, and President of the Bilingual Foundation of the Arts, and Hispanic Performing Arts organization.

Rev. Elder Dr. Nancy Wilson, Clerk of the Board of Elders and Mr. Steve Schulte, Councilperson for the city of West Hollywood presented Rev. Perry with his Honorary Doctorate at the commencement ceremony.

This is Rev. Perry's second Honorary Doctorate, receiving his first Doctorate from Samaritan College on 22 May 1984. Congratulations again, Troy!!

SAMARITAN SUNDAY

Samaritan Sunday is upon us once again. Please select a sunday in May to celebrate Samaritan Sunday with your congregation. The brochures, to be used as bulletin inserts on Samaritan Sunday, are in the mail. We are asking that you take up a special offering for Samaritan Educational Ministries. The gifts may be designated to one of the three divisions by making checks payable to that division, or given to all three by making checks payable to Samaritan Educational Ministries. Remember, we are all responsible for the Education of <u>our</u> people ! Thank you and God bless you!

Rev. Sherre Boothman — Samaritan College
Rev. Jeffrey Pulling — Samaritan Extended Studies
Ms. Jane Sandmeier — Executive Director, Excel

SAMARITAN COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT

This year's Commencement Ceremony is being held at Christ Chapel, Santa Ana. The graduates include: Rev. Ro Halford, Pastor - Free Spirit MCC @ C.I.W., Ms. Pat Leffler Student Clergy at Christ Chapel and Mr. Don Magill-Knitig Student Clergy, on assignment as Worship Coordinator of MCC of the Sierras, Reno, Nevada. The ceremony will be held on Friday, the 23 May, 1986 at 7:30 p.m. You are all cordially invited to join in this celebration.

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**Rev. David Day of MCC Austin is the new Editor of Journey. Materials for Journey can be sent to 5063 Ft. Clarke, Austin TX 78745, c/o Rev. David Day.